

SATURDAY, MAY 21, 1938.

TERRE HAUTE TRIBUNE. *Lodges (T.H.)*

# KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS STATE CONVENT

HEADQUARTERS OF KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CONVENTION



LOCAL COUNCIL NO. 341 CLUBROOMS, WHERE CONVENTION MEETINGS WILL BE HELD AT NINTH AND OHIO STREETS.

*321*

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# LOCAL COUNCIL IS THE HOST

Terre Haute Council of Knights of Columbus Has Had Interesting History.

BY ALBERT A. DICKS.

Back in the early eighties the Rev. Father Michael J. McGivney of New Haven, Conn., conceived the idea of organizing a body of Catholic men for the purpose of rendering aid to members and their families. His thought became a reality that brought forth the hearty co-operation of the Catholic men of his district, and, under his direction, the Knights of Columbus was founded on March 29, 1882. Father McGivney little dreamed that this movement would have the widespread support that it has gained. So great has been the zeal and efforts of its membership that today the Knights of Columbus are international in scope and stand as one of the greatest Catholic organizations in the world.

The spirit of this new organization spread westward and on Nov. 18, 1900, Terre Haute Council No. 541 was organized and granted a charter with a charter membership of seventy-three. Daniel E. Reagan was chosen as the first grand knight of the local council and contributed a great deal of time and energy in behalf of the order until his death in May, 1937.

The charter list contains the following names: Daniel E. Reagan, James B. Walsh, J. J. Ring, Michael J. Ward, D. M. O'Donnell, Jon J. Cleary, Charles Fox, John Scheidel, J. W. Frisz, Frank Hoermann, J. J. Daugherty, J. A. Gainer, S. Lennon, J. A. Frisz, M. F. Burke, J. F. Brinkman, J. R. Connelly, P. H. Dalley, J. B. Walsh, Edward L. Dowling, E. McCusker, E. F. Quinlan, J. N. Frisz, William Erler, G. B. Frisz, J. P. Hogan, Leander Jackson, M. O'Laughlin, M. W. Stack, T. F. Sharkey, Thomas Welch, D. D. O'Neill, Joseph Frisz, C. S. Cronin, J. J. Redmond, Joseph G. Kirchner, F. P. Brinkman, C. C. Steinmetz, E. W. Walsh, William Harrold, T. F. Curran, C. E. Hyland, M. J. G. Wiseman, T. W. Moorehead, T. J. Dalley, John F. Murphy, J. L. Walsh, R. C. Snider, L. J. Willien, F. P. Ryan, F. P. H. Prox, J. Dommershausen, J. W. Lauer, F. H. Haring, Frank Conrath, E. A. Hallinan, F. A. Fehrenbach, W. F. Cronin, J. W. Gerdink, the Rev. F. Lehner, J. E. Hegarty, M. E. O'Connell, D. P. Downs, J. F. Brophy, C. J. Murphy, A. J. Frisz, T. E. Dwyer, F. M. Ryan, D. T. O'Mara, H. C. Prox, P. F. Freel and Benjamin J. Spellman.

The following charter members are still living and members of the K. of C.: Past Grand Knights Joseph G. Kirchner, Frank Hoermann, Frank Conrath, Martin E. O'Connell, Edward F. Quinlan, John W. Gerdink, Charles Fox, Michael J. Ward, Benjamin J. Spellman and J. W. Frisz. On March 28, 1938, the living charter members were honored guests at a banquet and special meeting, held in the K. of C. club house.

## Hosts for Convention of K. of C.



REV. JEROME PFAUF, S. T. D.  
Local Chaplain.



EDWARD T. ALL.  
Grand Knight.



TIMOTHY P. GALVIN.  
Member Supreme Board.



WILLIAM J. NOONAN SR.  
Treasurer Glibault Home.

### Seek Larger Quarters.

A spacious room in the Tune Building at Fifth and Wabash was chosen as the first clubrooms, but the growth of the organization was so rapid that larger quarters were necessary. On Jan. 1, 1905, Charles R. Duffin, chosen as grand knight, and he and a special committee immediately set about securing a new location and the purchase of the present property at Ninth and Ohio streets was the outcome of this effort. Regular club house facilities were installed, which included the lounging, reading, council rooms and a large auditorium. In 1922 a committee composed of William R. Condon, the Rev. A. B. Duffy and John G. Klug, together with the support of the membership, installed bowling alleys at a cost of \$15,000. This forward movement was a real asset.

The past two years have shown a marked interior improvement in the

club house in that extensive remodeling has been done and the home completely refurnished with furniture of modernistic design. These improvements, together with a healthy membership increase, has done much to increase council interest and activity, so much so that the regular weekly meetings on Monday night are graced with an excellent attendance.

### Care For the Boys.

One of the very important movements in which the local council has been interested is the care and guidance of Catholic boys between the ages of 14 and 18 years. The organization of a circle of the Columbian Squires was the result of concerted effort in behalf of this movement, with a charter membership of 40 boys. The circle is named Daniel E. Reagan Circle in honor to and memory of the local, first grand knight, Daniel E. Reagan.





PAUL J. KADEL.  
District Deputy.



FRANK J. HANUSCH.  
State Treasurer.



O. D. DORSEY.  
Past State Deputy.



REV. WENDELL P. CORCORAN, C. S. C.  
State Chaplain.



GILBERT E. POWELL.  
State Secretary.



HENRY G. SCHUCK.  
State Warden.



HARRY G. KITCHIN.



RAYMOND P. KOCH.



# ✓ Knights of Columbus

BY ALBERT A. DICKS.

In this fast changing age when many fraternal orders and clubs find abundant competition in the attractions and distractions, now very common to our everyday life, a great majority have centered their thoughts on how best to amuse themselves with little consideration given to the fine privilege of good-fellowship and mutual understanding that follows in the wake of putting the tenets of fraternal orders into full effect. However, there is

one organization that is taking its full measure of understanding and pleasure in the membership meeting man to man, that being Terre Haute Council 541 of the Knights of Columbus. Since its inception in 1900 there has been a steady growth of its membership based on healthy and progressive lines that has placed the local council in the forefront in both fraternal, social and civic circles. In the month of May, 1900, a decided effort was put forth looking toward the establishment of a local council of the Knights of Columbus and these efforts were crowned with success in the month of November of the same year when a charter membership class of seventy-three took the "work" and started the building of a local organization that today boasts a membership roll of over 500. The first election of officers was held on Dec. 13, 1900, in St. Joseph's School Hall with the result that the following were selected to form the first official family:

Daniel E. Reagan, grand knight; James B. Walsh, deputy grand knight; John F. Murphy, chancellor; John C. Cleary, financial secretary; Charles Fox, recording secretary; Herman Prox, treasurer; Frank M. Ryan, lecturer; William F. Cronin, advocate; Jacob Frisz, warden; John R. Connelly, inner guard; Frank Fehrenbach, outer guard; John E. Brinkman, John Galtor, William Erles and William Dwyer, trustees; Dr. Joseph Frisz, physician, and the Rev. Father Francis Lehner, chaplain.

The first meeting quarters were located in the Tame building at Fifth and Wabash but by 1908, these rooms became too small to accommodate this fast growing organization and the then Grand Knight, Charles R. Duffin, and a picked committee set about securing a new location with their efforts being successful in securing the present location at the northwest corner of Ninth and Ohio streets. The purchase of this location has proven well worth while as it has permitted improvements and additions that makes it an outstanding fraternal home and club quarters, being equipped with a large council chamber, several recreation rooms, a ladies' lounge, library, large bowling alley, a large gymnasium and an extra large sec-

tion for mercantile purposes. The utilization of this space would seem like a big order but the multitude of activities in progress require all of it. Among the many activities calendered during the year and established as annual affairs are the Fathers and Sons banquet, St. Patrick's Day dance, Bowlers' Party, Membership Family picnic in July, Columbus Day celebration, Christmas party for the boys at Gibault Home, Christmas party for the members and their families and New Year's Eve party, with many social affairs interspersed during the twelve months' period.

## Catholic Youth Movement.

In years gone by it was the conclusion of most persons that the youth in the grade and first years of high school could or would find some method of entertaining themselves, but a rather rapid change has taken place in this particular field in recent years that requires a more comprehensive effort be made to provide a type or character of diversion that will be both entertaining and educational with a thoughtful interest in the welfare of the younger generation. With

this idea in mind a plan was formulated and announced to utilize the facilities of the Knights of Columbus quarters for the benefit of the Catholic boys in the sixth, seventh, eighth grades and first and second years of high school, but which now takes in the boys from the fourth through the eighth grades and all four years of high school. This worthy effort was proposed by Past Grand Knight Edward All, who at the time of such proposal was the grand knight of the local council. His proposition met with immediate approval and steps were taken to and did provide the necessary funds for changing the large ballroom into a gymnasium.

This was made possible through contributions by the members, interested Protestants and Catholics alike, together with a determined effort on the part of a committee composed of: Lou Hart, chairman; Dr. Joseph F. Mohr, secretary; Frank J. Hanisch, treasurer; Paul P. Hanrahan, Bernard J. Carney, John F. Kelly, Harry J. Harbulak, Raymond J. Kearns, Charles F. Hanley, Frank W. Firman, Harry Klega and Frank Voelkers. Today the gymnasium provides such athletic facilities as basketball, volley ball, ping pong, shuffle board, wrestling, boxing, billiards, punching bags and all of the necessities that go to make up a complete gym. Much credit is due to the past committee and the present committee in carrying on in an admirable manner and composed of John F. Kelly, chairman; Dr. Joseph F. Mohr, secretary; Frank J. Hanisch, treasurer, and Lou Hart, Bernard J. Carney, Raymond J. Kearns, Myron Busby, Frank W. Firman, Paul P. Hanrahan, Edward All and Harry Klega. The efforts in this line are producing very pleasing results.

## Columbian Squires.

Feeling the need of something particularly interesting to the Catholic youth in the adolescent period, 14 to 18 years of age, the supreme council of the Knights of Columbus decided to form an organization to be known as the Columbian Squires. A few years ago, this idea was put into being and, today, there are a large number of circles of this junior order in existence. In November, 1937, a committee composed of Grand Knight Edward All, Dr. Joseph F. Mohr, chairman; Paul J. Kadel, Harry A. Toelle, Larry Kigh and Frank J. Hanisch set about to organize such a circle in this district and their efforts met with immediate success, and on March 27, 1938, the Daniel E. Reagan Circle No. 243 was duly instituted with John J. Valle, grand knight of the Council No. 541, acting as senior counselor and a charter class of thirty-nine boys to form the foundation of what is now one of the largest Columbian Squires circles in the country.

The activities of this branch of the K. of C. embraces study club work, religious work, education, athletics and American citizenship. The present retinue of officers is comprised of Robert Davis, chief squire; William Armstrong, deputy chief squire; Edward Murtaugh, bursar; William Hunter, notary; Joseph Cullen, marshal; Joseph Lundstrom, pole captain; Fred Moelter, arms captain, with K. of C. members acting as counselors: John J. Valle, senior counselor; Richard C. Metz, cultural educational counselor, and Kenneth Holcomb, physical counselor. Senior Counselor John J. Valle, has made

distinguished mark for himself in his worthy cause and has been chosen as the head of the Columbian Squire movement in the State of Indiana, and, through his efforts and excellent co-operation of Indiana Knights of Columbus councils, a state class of Columbian Squires was inducted in Indianapolis on Sunday, Jan. 26, 1941.

## Bowling.

One of the principal activities, in which a large portion of the members indulge, is bowling and this facility was brought about through the efforts of a committee composed of John G. Klug, chairman; the Rev. Father A. B. Duffy and William R. Condon in the early twenties. This committee set out to and did raise the sum of \$5,000 for the establishment of four bowling alleys, through voluntary contributions, stage shows and other affairs with the shows being managed by Lawrence E. Johnson. This entertaining feature met with and secured the whole-hearted support of the members and has increased down through the years to the point, several years ago, when it became necessary to add two more alleys making a complement of six alleys now in operation and being in almost constant use.

Special tournaments for the members, inter-club tournaments and the allotment of Monday night of each week for the ladies, are part of the bowling program which is under the direct supervision and management of Past Grand Knight, Edward All.

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#### Origin of K. of C.

All of the foregoing has been built upon a cornerstone of fraternalism which was founded and promoted by a broad visioned clergyman, the Rev. Father Michael McGivney, who conceived the idea of forming an organization of Catholic men for the purpose of rendering aid to its members and their families through a well defined plan of life insurance and promoting social contact between men of the Catholic faith.

As soon as the basic plans were laid he called a meeting of a group of representative Catholic men of New Haven, Conn., and presented them to the group, with the result that a charter was issued to the Knights of Columbus by the state of Connecticut on March 29, 1882. The progress of this new organiza-

tion became imbued with the momentum of the proverbial snowball rolling down the snow-clad mountain and, in a few short years, spread over the length and breadth of the United States.

Today the Knights of Columbus are justly proud of a very large membership, with local councils established in every large and fair-sized city in the United States and the Dominion of Canada, making it the largest and most influential organization of Catholic men in the world.